

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for determining a deterioration of a battery, comprising:
measuring respective numbers and depths of charge and discharge cycles of the battery;
determining a respective characteristic deterioration value for each of at least some of the charge and discharge cycles using a deterioration curve characteristic of a type of the battery; and
summing the determined characteristic deterioration values so as to obtain the deterioration of the battery.
2. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein each respective charge and discharge cycle is a respective partial cycle, the measuring being performed so as to measure the respective partial cycle separately.
3. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the deterioration curve is a continuous function defining a dependence of each characteristic deterioration value on the depth of the respective charge or discharge for the battery type.
4. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the deterioration curve includes approximated intervals having a class width adapted to the respective battery type, the deterioration curve defining a dependence of a respective characteristic deterioration value on the depth of the respective charge or discharge.
5. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the deterioration curve is, in at least a section, adapted to a condition currently prevailing in a region of the battery using a weighting factor.
6. The method as recited in claim 5 wherein the weighting factor is dependent on a temperature.
7. The method as recited in claim 5 wherein the weighting factor is dependent on a direction and an intensity of a current of the respective charge or discharge cycle.

8. The method as recited in claim 6 wherein the weighting factor is dependent on a direction and an intensity of a current of the respective charge or discharge cycle.
9. The method as recited in claim 2 wherein the deterioration curve is a continuous function defining a dependence of each characteristic deterioration value on the depth of the respective charge or discharge for the battery type.
10. The method as recited in claim 2 wherein the deterioration curve includes approximated intervals having a class width adapted to the respective battery type, the deterioration curve defining a dependence of a respective characteristic deterioration value on the depth of the respective charge or discharge.
11. The method as recited in claim 2 wherein the deterioration curve is, in at least a section, adapted to a condition currently prevailing in a region of the battery using a weighting factor.
12. The method as recited in claim 11 wherein the weighting factor is dependent on a temperature.
13. The method as recited in claim 11 wherein the weighting factor is dependent on a direction and an intensity of a current of the respective charge or discharge cycle.
14. The method as recited in claim 12 wherein the weighting factor is dependent on a direction and an intensity of a current of the respective charge or discharge cycle.
15. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the at least some of the charge and discharge cycles does not include charge or discharge cycles having a respective depth of charge or discharge below a predetermined limit.
16. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the battery is configured to be used in a motor vehicle for supplying electric power to electronic auxiliary components.

17. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the battery is configured to be used in a motor vehicle for supplying electric power to propulsion components.
18. The method as recited in claim 2 wherein the at least some of the charge and discharge cycles does not include charge or discharge cycles having a respective depth of charge or discharge below a predetermined limit.
19. The method as recited in claim 2 wherein the battery is configured to be used in a motor vehicle for supplying electric power to electronic auxiliary components.
20. The method as recited in claim 2 wherein the battery is configured to be used in a motor vehicle for supplying electric power to propulsion components.